

Keetley, the chief engineer in charge of driving the tunnel.¹⁴

SOLDIERS SUMMIT

Soldiers Summit is the only town in Wasatch County which does not lie in the Provo Valley. It was named for soldiers of Johnston's Army, some of whom are said to have died and been buried on the top of the pass between the Colorado Basin and the Great Basin.¹⁵ The town at one time was the center of Denver & Rio Grande railroad shop activity, but since the withdrawal of the shops most of the homes were torn down.

¹⁴George A. Fisher, *Along the Road* (Keetley, Utah, 1950), p. 43.

¹⁵"Origin of Mormon Names of Cities, Mountains, Streams, Counties, etc. in the U. S.," *Heart Throbs of the West*, Vol. V (compiled by Kate B. Carter, Salt Lake City, 1944), p. 14.

~~DD Green~~

J. H.

SOLDIER SUMMIT, WASATCH COUNTY

J. M. T.

Most people living in Wasatch County are prone to think of it as being Heber City surrounded by Midway, Charleston, Wallsburg, Daniel and Center Creek and a few scattered farms and industries. Little is known locally of the last region in Wasatch County to be pioneered, settled and then, almost abandoned. This place is Soldier Summit.

The stories told by old settlers are to the effect that a fragment of Johnson's Army became separated from the main body somewhere in Wyoming and wandered into this part of Wasatch County where they perished from cold and exposure during the winter of 1857. Hence the name of Soldier Summit.

Whoever found and buried these men were most kind. Each grave is well-marked with a cross of rocks laid on the surface of each grave. A fence was built around the six graves.

The D. R. G. & Western Railroad chose Soldier Summit as a division point. Here a thriving, rather tough town, grew up only to be forsaken when trainmen found it impossible to fight the snow and cold. The division was returned to Helper.

According to the town record there should be 96 people there, but that figure seems much to "hopeful." In Soldier Summit you find one of the County's best equipped schools. Community loyalty is unsurpassed. No service is too great for our patrons to perform. Recently men waded in snow to their armpits to bring in the Christmas tree. On next Sunday afternoon the parents will gather and trim the tree after which everyone will partake of a fine community supper and take part in a song fest. Every child will receive a gift and Santa will not forget the adults when the big party is held December 20, 1951.

From
"Pioneers of
Wasatch,"
by John M.
Turner